

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
- generating, automatically with an electronic device, a local network first search request in response to an original search request, the local network first search request to cause a search to be performed on electronic documents unconsciously captured by a local network device, wherein the unconsciously captured documents are stored by a device that is part of a local network, the search of the electronic documents unconsciously captured to be performed according to search parameters of the original search request; and
- generating, automatically with the electronic device, an external network a second search request in response to the original search request, the external network second search request to cause a search to be performed on electronic documents available from devices that are part of an external network via a network portal of an external network according to the search parameters of the original search request.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the local network device comprises a file management appliance.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 wherein the file management appliance generates the local network first search request and the external network second search request.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 wherein the file management appliance performs a search of the unconsciously captured electronic documents in response to the local network ~~first~~ search request.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 wherein an Internet portal performs a search of the electronic documents available via a network portal of an external network in response to the external network ~~second~~ search request.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the local network ~~first~~ search request and the external network ~~second~~ search request are generated by a portal appliance in response to the original search request.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising generating a single search report based on results from the local network ~~first~~ search request and the external network ~~second~~ search request.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the search report is a Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) document.

9. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the search report is an Extensible Markup Language (XML) document.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7 wherein the search report comprises an advertisement selected based on the external network ~~first~~ search request.

11. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the search report comprises an advertisement selected based on analysis of documents indicated by search results.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising generating a third search request in response to the original search request, the third search request to cause a search to be performed on electronic documents available via a second network portal of the external network according to the search parameters of the original search request.

13. (Currently Amended) A machine readable medium having stored thereon sequences of instructions that, when executed by one or more processors, cause one or more electronic devices to:

generate, automatically with an electronic device, a local network ~~first~~ search request in response to an original search request, the local network ~~first~~ search request to cause a search to be performed on electronic documents unconsciously captured by a local network device, wherein the unconsciously captured documents are stored by a device that is part of a local network, the search of the electronic documents unconsciously captured to be performed according to search parameters of the original search request; and

generate, automatically with the electronic device, an external network ~~a second~~ search request in response to the original search request, the external network ~~second~~

search request to cause a search to be performed on electronic documents available from devices that are part of an external network via a network portal of an external network according to the search parameters of the original search request.

14. (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 13 wherein the local network device comprises a file management appliance.

15. (Currently Amended) The machine readable medium of claim 14 wherein the file management appliance generates the local network ~~first~~ search request and the external network ~~second~~ search request.

16. (Currently Amended) The machine readable medium of claim 14 wherein the file management appliance performs a search of the unconsciously captured electronic documents in response to the local network ~~first~~ search request.

17. (Currently Amended) The machine readable medium of claim 14 wherein an Internet portal performs a search of the electronic documents available via a network portal of an external network in response to the external network ~~second~~ search request.

18. (Currently Amended) The machine readable medium of claim 13 wherein the local network ~~first~~ search request and the external network ~~second~~ search request are generated by a portal appliance in response to the original search request.

19. (Currently Amended) The machine readable medium of claim 13 further comprising generating a search report based on results from the local network ~~first~~ search request and the external network ~~second~~ search request.

20. (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 19 wherein the search report is a Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) document.

21. (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 19 wherein the search report is an Extensible Markup Language (XML) document.

22. (Currently Amended) The machine readable medium of claim 19 wherein the search report comprises an advertisement selected based on the external network ~~first~~ search request.

23. (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 19 wherein the search report comprises an advertisement selected based on analysis of documents indicated by search results.

24. (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 13 further comprising generating a third search request in response to the original search request, the third search request to cause a search to be performed on electronic documents available via a second network portal of an external network according to the search parameters of the original search request.

25. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a device to automatically capture electronic documents from ~~the~~ a local network;

and

an application to be executed by the device to search the captured electronic documents in response to a search request, wherein the application also generates an external document search request in response to the search request, wherein the device transmits the external document search request to a device on an external network, wherein the device on the external network performs the external document search request to generate a search of electronic documents from an external network.

26-29. (Canceled)

30. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25 wherein the external document search is performed by an Internet portal.

31. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25 wherein the search of captured electronic documents is performed by the device.

32-34. (Canceled)